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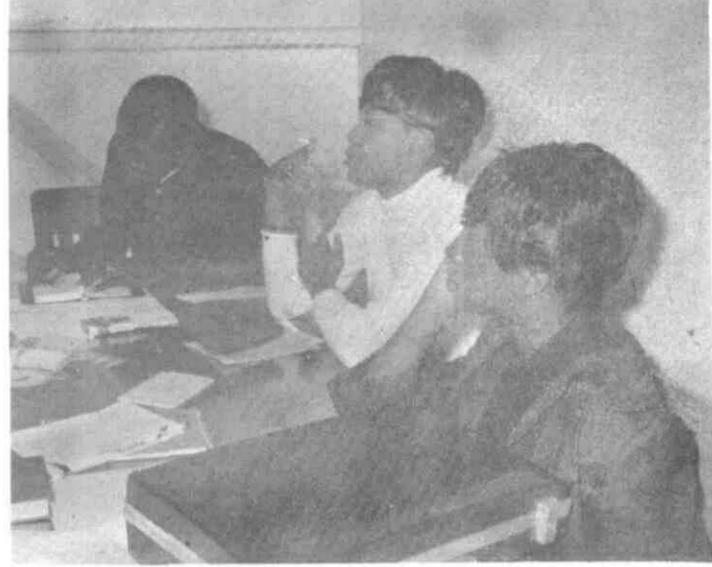
SE TEENAGERS PLAN NEW CENTER

Bill Graham (left), Yvonne McPherson and Brenda Simpson at a meeting the Teen Mobilization Committee held to discuss plans for the new teen center at 1308 Pa. Ave. SE. The youths are among a group of teenage community organizers now working in the Capitol East area.

They hope to encourage local teens to get together to solve their own problems.

The new teen center will feature a large meeting and recreation hall, offices and a working kitchen.

For full details on this story please turn to page 3.



Capitol East Gazette

Serving Near Northeast & Near Southeast Washington

Vol. 1 Nr. 5

November, 1966

10 Cents

ERC-Community Council Procedure Fight Cools Off

REVIEW SLATED

The Emergency Recreation Council for Capitol East and the Capitol Hill Community Council have apparently made up without kissing. The ERC, at a meeting Oct. 27, appointed a special committee to review its election procedures. The action came in response to seven points of order raised by the Community Council, a delegate member of the ERC. Gregory New, who led the fight against the ERC (during which the Community Council several times threatened to withdraw from the organization), expressed satisfaction with the outcome. "That's the responsible action we wanted," he said. ERC cochairmen John Anthony and Thomas G. Smith also said they were pleased with the result of the meeting.

The session, held at Friendship House, frequently became heated. Before the audience of fifty delegates and guests, former chairman Michael Finklestein gave an impassioned defense of his administration which he said was the subject of the Community Council's attack. He said the Council had accused him of being a "dictator" and that the charge "rankles." He described the Council's points of order as "ridiculous" and he claimed that the Community Council delegate to the ERC had twice voted for the election procedures the Council was now criticizing.

The motion to appoint a special committee was made, by cochairman Smith and included a provision that the committee, in its study, realize the necessity to keep "those nitpicking would-be parliamentarians" out of the organization. Upon approval of the motion, cochairman Anthony appointed a committee consisting of Community Council President Keith Melder; Merle Baumgart, a Democratic precinct captain; and Finklestein.

The controversy has been growing for months. Finklestein told the Gazette that the Community Council "threatened to quit when I became chairman and they wanted me to come to their meeting and defend myself and I told them, 'Look that's your problem.'"

There appear to be several sources of friction between the two groups. One is the Council's displeasure with the informal nature of ERC proceedings. In its

points of order, for example, the Council asked such questions as "Why does the ERC never elect the same officers by the same methods twice in a row?" At the meeting, delegate Jane Hardin defended the ERC's approach saying: "The ERC does detailed work. If they had to hold meetings every month they'd be like every other organization up here and never get anything done."

Another friction point is a personality conflict between several of the more vocal members of the two organizations.

Still another is the differing political composition of the groups. The ERC's cochairmen are leading Capitol East Democratic politicians. The Community Council has tended to have a more conservative cast.

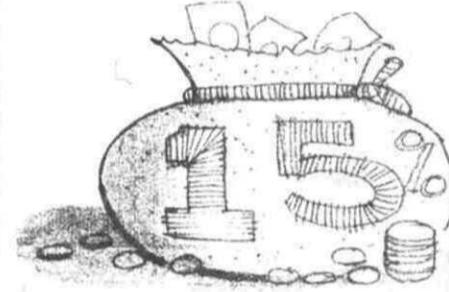
This issue was raised in the July edition of the Community Council's News, which pointed out the Democratic affiliation for Anthony, Smith and Finklestein.

It appears probable, however, that the ERC's action at its October meeting will keep the Community Council in the organization. The Council will discuss the matter at its next meeting.

East of the Dome

Some six hundred elementary public school teachers will have attended classroom teaching demonstrations at the Godding School, 9th & F NE, by the end of this year. Godding is one of two schools in the city used for the demonstration of classroom technique and management.

The weather was perfect Oct. 8th for a fair and the Peabody-Edmonds PTA put on a Fun Day on the playground of Peabody School, 5th & C NE. Mrs. Louise Lovett and Mrs. Elia Parsons, cochairmen for the event, said that the proceeds were to be used for teaching and learning aids for the two schools. The president of the PTA, Mrs. Mary Howard, agreed with Peabody principal Mrs. Florence J. Radcliffe that the money could be well spent on reading materials. More than 400 children and adults enjoyed the pony ride, cake walk, hot dogs, an arts and crafts booth, baked goods, candies, puppets, movies, a manicure stand, a fashion show and a book stall. The stall was sponsored by the School Action Council of Capitol East.



SHOPPERS HERE JOIN BOYCOTT

Capitol East shoppers have joined the protest against high food prices by boycotting area supermarkets.

Their action is part of a citywide effort to bring food prices down an average of 15% and to improve food quality and service.

Capitol East leaders of the boycott include Millie Buck of Friendship House and Linda Work.

Leaflets have been distributed and chain stores picketed. The supermarkets maintain that their profit margin is very slim but the boycotters argue that if the stores did away with such gimmicks as trading stamps and special promotions, they would be able to lower prices.

The chain stores being picketed were Safeway, A & P, Acme, Food Fair, Giant, Grand Union and Kroger.

Capitol East's Eastern Market and the local "mom and pop" stores were not included in the boycott. Shoppers were advised to patronize these stores, to but at cooperatives in suburbs or to form groups to purchase at wholesale prices.

The boycotters made five demands of the stores:

1. Prices lowered by an average of 15%
2. Uniform prices within all the stores of a chain.
3. Clear marking of all items.
4. Uniform high quality of food.
5. Cleanliness and variety of food.

One of the leaflets distributed in the Capitol East area was based on a theme the supermarkets themselves have used: "Win a Bonus." The handout urged shoppers to play "Win a Bonus Boycott" and said that the stores will "play by our rules or suffer the boycott. The game will continue until our demands are met."

The Gazette

The Capitol East Gazette is published each month for the benefit of Washingtonians living in Capitol East. The Gazette may be received by mail for \$2 a year. Or, if you live in Washington postal zones 2 or 3, you may subscribe to the *Idler Magazine* at \$3 a year and get the Gazette free.

All advertising and news copy must be received by the 25th of the month to be published in the next issue of the Gazette.

Editor: Sam Smith
Editor's Wife: Kathy Smith
Associate Editor: Erbin Crowell
Correspondence, circulation and coffee: Sally Crowell

The Gazette
413 6th St. NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
546-9662

East of the Dome

Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, 101 5th St. NE, recently entertained 11 retired railroad men at their home. The men, including Mr. Smith, had 557 years of service between them. Most of them had been employed by the Pennsylvania R.R. Among those present were several who now live in Capitol East: Frank J. Denning, Clarence Money and W. E. Gray. Smith, Denning and Money had been engineers on the Pennsy's New York - Washington run and Gray had been yard conductor at the Washington yard.

The St. Peter's Angels are back playing football on the Capitol lot at 2nd & C SE, thanks to a law passed in the closing moments of Congress. The Angels, a team of SE Washington youths, had been evicted from the lot by police on the grounds that it was government property. Congress came to the rescue, however, with a bill that permits the lot to be used by the DC Recreation Dept. with Congress retaining ownership, and the Angels were allowed to return. They are coached by John LaPrade, 207 3rd SE.

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What's Happening?

In this space each month, I plan to jot down a few thoughts about Capitol East that may be of interest to the reader. If things go about as expected, some of the thoughts are liable to be a bit controversial. If you don't like them, write us a letter. We'll probably print it. We want the Gazette to be a lively paper. I'm not going to hide my views and I don't expect the reader to either. We've got many problems to thrash out and a community newspaper is a very good place to do the thrashing.

Like this freeway business. The Redevelopment Land Agency is meant to see that people who get pushed out of their homes because of urban renewal and highway projects find decent housing. They're meant to do a good job of it because because people are more important than roads or highrise apartment houses or some politicians idea of the way the city ought to look.

Trouble is, when you come right down to it, the RLA is about the same as any District agency. The only time it really has to answer to the people is when the public or the newspapers raise so much hell they can't avoid it.

But the point is that people shouldn't have to yell and scream and stomp and picket in order to get a governmental agency to do what the law says it's got to do.

Len Kirsten called us up just before press time to tell us about the various new stores about to open up in Near SE. They include a men's store, two art galleries, women's store and an interior decorating establishment.

More about this next month. In the meantime, happy anniversary to Len and his Emporium.

Place for Youth?

A group of SE Capetasters are seeking a place to use for Saturday entertainment programs for area youngsters. Two movie houses have been approached but have declined to participate in the program. Application has now been made to the DC Recreation Dept. for the use of the Hine Jr. High School auditorium.

The Capitol Hill Youth Entertainment Project was initiated by Wilbert Baylor, a community organizer at Friendship House and Edward Miller, a Manpower employee. The project is designed to involve youngsters in performing and presenting free entertainment--such as drama and rock 'n' roll--to other Capitol Hill young residents.

At the present time there are very few Saturday programs available to Hill youths. The organizers hope that a program such as they propose will offer an outlet for local talent.

Last month we ran a story about a family of ten being evicted from 1311 L St. SE. The Committee for Better Housing led a sustained protest against the action and demanded that the city condemn the place as unfit for human habitation. The landlord, responding to the pressure and the threat of condemnation, has made repairs. Furthermore, the committee got the city inspectors to come down finally and look at the area and now three more houses are under condemnation orders.

In the closing moments of Congress, money for the acquisition of land for the Hine Junior High School expansion was knocked out of the city budget. The school is overcrowded, but the people who live in restored houses threatened by the expansion feel that the defeat of the plan was a great community victory. But we can only hope -- now that they've won this battle--that they will turn their energies towards protecting the interests of the 300 families to be evicted by the freeway.

An official of the Department of Recreation says his outfit is living in "fear and trepidation" about what's going to happen to the portable splash pools over the winter. "We don't know whether they're going to mildew or rot or what," he said.

Home rule was struck a pretty bad blow thanks to the preelection rush for adjournment. The President and Congress can talk all they want about defending democracy in Vietnam, but they have yet to prove their concern for the 800,000 Washingtonians who get less practical experience in democracy than Vietnamese peasants. Washington remains the totally disenfranchised colony of the United States and had to pay for this honor with bad schools, lousy housing conditions and inadequate welfare services.

--sam smith

Hill Schools Discussed

The Circle-on-the-Hill held its October meeting on the 26th of last month at Friendship House. An informal discussion was led by five Circle mothers who have children presently or formerly in public schools. They discussed the educational structure of Hill schools.

Five hardy Circle families participated in a wet but enjoyable day at Camp Friendship on Oct. 1. Conversation and an enthusiastic game of Scrabble were backed up by the cooking of Leona Rosch.

The Books chairman for this year is Elizabeth Mouzavires. She will be in charge of the sales of "Finishing Touches" and "Small Fryers." Anyone wishing to distribute the books or to find out more about them can call her at 546-2848.



Peter Weil stands beside a piece of his sculpture at an exhibition of his work early last month. The show, held in the studio and garden behind 130 11th St. SE, was highly successful. It featured work in stone, wood, metal and constructions.

Free Concert

There will be a free concert at Hine Jr. High School on November 22 at 8:30 p.m. Performing will be the Washington Civic Symphony, an orchestra of nearly 60 musicians. The concert is cosponsored by the Emergency Recreation Council and the Circle-on-the-Hill, under the auspices of the D.C. Dept. of Recreation.

The organizers say that a capacity audience and community interest can result in more activities of this type in the area.

The program, William Bennett, conducting, will include the following works:

Impresario Overture (Mozart)
Two Hymn Preludes (Vaughn Williams)
Two Pieces for Strings (Walton)
Symphony #5 (Boyce)
Symphony #6 (Schubert)

Ross Elected

Sherwood Ross was elected president of the School Action Council of Capitol East at the October meeting of the organization. Other officers elected were: James Atwater, vice president; Gregory New, recording secretary; Francis Hammet, corresponding secretary; and Sally Lorimer, treasurer.

New committee chairmen have also been named by the group. They are: Pete Ward, action; Pat Mitchell, membership; Michael Tigar, legal; Gregory New, PTA liaison; Lee Rodgers, planning; Kathy Ross, publicity; George Cheely, constitution; and Sherwood Ross, research.

Free Wash!

Get three loads of clothes washed for the price of two at Community Laundries, 1125 Penna. Ave. SE. Just bring the coupon below and your dirty clothing on any Tuesday or Wednesday during this month to Capitol East's new combination laundry and community center. Relax in the lounge while your clothes are washing.

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Gathering Place for Teens Opens in Near Southeast

Near SE teenagers now have a center for their own activities and meetings. The center, located at 1308 Penna. Ave. SE, has a reception room, office, working kitchen, as well as a large warehouse room that will be transformed into a gathering place for teens, with tables for billiards and ping-pong and room for dancing.

Members of the Teen Mobilization Committee, organized by Friendship House, have been decorating and preparing the building for use as a teen center. The building will not only be used for recreation but as a meeting place where local teens can get together and help solve their own problems.

We visited the center shortly before its opening and found about a dozen teenagers busy at work making bookcases, decorating walls, and typing records. A phonograph played rock 'n' roll as the teens worked.

Behind the center's development is the Teen Committee, a group of teenagers who are serving as neighborhood youth organizers. They have been ringing doorbells and talking to teens for the past few weeks, trying to get them interested in a SE youth program which teenagers themselves would run.

There are 26 teenage organizers in the program. Among them are four "seniors" -- experienced youth workers who will help the others learn the techniques of community organization. In talking with the seniors, we found them optimistic about their program. Bill Graham, who worked in Operation Champ last summer, said it was "an excellent idea. The total impact could be very successful."

Jim Wade, 19, thought the program might end some of the local teenagers' disillusionment with community action. "They've been promised so much and they never get it," he said. "We keep on asking for it and we still don't get it. So we're going to start making it ourselves. Teens don't like being told what to do."

Yvonne McPherson thought the program would be of particular use to local girls who "have no place to go." And 19-year-old Gladys Cunningham, a former neigh-

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 - b. Who is involved? (Print names clearly).
 - c. Why is it taking place?
 - d. When is it taking place?
 - e. Where is it taking place?
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2. Mail to the Gazette, 413 6th St. NE, Washington, D.C. Or—if it's short—phone us at 546-9662.
3. Our deadline is the 25th of the month prior to the month of issue.
4. We can use photos providing they are clear and are sent with a complete description of the subject matter including identification of persons in the picture. Photos can not be returned.

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Commissioners.

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borhood youth corps worker, said she thought that the teen center would be useful because present facilities do not reach all teens.

The youth organizers recently attended a meeting of teenagers from all over the city to discuss plans for the 1967 summer program. They are now drawing up proposals to be presented to the District Commissioners.

They have also appointed several committees for their new center. Eugene Jenkins is the chairman of the decoration committee and Cecelia Spriggs is chairman of the maintenance committee.

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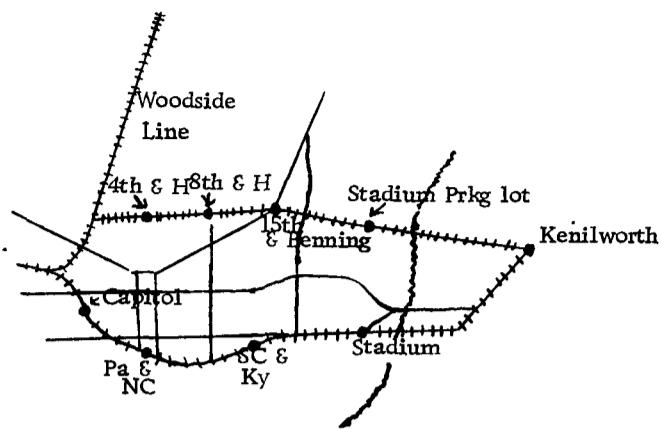
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NE Subway Route Urged



NE SUBWAY ROUTE

Map showing the subway route proposed by the NE Subway Comm. which would run along H St. NE; and the presently planned route through SE.

The Near Northeast Subway Committee has been formed under the leadership of John Anthony to push for a change in the subway route planned for the eastern part of the city. The group wants the subway to run along H St. NE, down Benning Rd. to the parking lot on the north side of D. C. Stadium and across the Anacostia River to the Kenilworth Ave. interchange. Current plans, approved by Congress, have the tracks running through upper Near Southeast.

"We believe the Northeast route will be cheaper, shorter, and will serve the the main points of interest in the area," Anthony said. Furthermore, he believes it would pay for itself.

He told the Gazette that the approved SE route had several drawbacks:

--It would primarily serve middle and upper income SE residents who do not need public transportation.

--It would not serve those living in the poorer sections of SE. These Capeasters would have to take a 20-25 minute bus ride to get to a subway stop.

--It would run through 1.5 miles of unpopulated land east of the stadium and include a stop at the stadium that would only be used during events there.

The Northeast route his group has proposed offers these advantages, according to Anthony:

--It would run along the H St. business district, a popular shopping area for low income families.

--It would serve the intersection of 15th and Benning Rd., which is the location of Sears, Hechinger's and a large supermarket.

--It would provide access to the stadium through a stop near the north parking lot, as well as serving residents in the vicinity.

--Because of its proximity to major business areas and a large population of low income families, it would pay for itself.

The Northeast Subway Committee proposes stops at the stadium north parking area, 15th and Benning Rd., 8th and H, and 4th and H. Anthony says that 50-70% of the work trips in the H St. area are made by public transportation.

Prospects for a route change are not bright. It would almost certainly require congressional action.

George Town COFFEE House



634 Penn Ave. SE LI 7-4144

Park Service Beats City's Trash Pickup

The National Park Service removes trash from its 1500 receptacles in the region up to three times a day and at least once a day. The city's Sanitation Division, meanwhile, maintains a leisurely pickup schedule of once a week for its 2000 receptacles. Robert E. Kloske, regional chief of the Park Service's division of maintenance, told the Gazette that the number of trash pickups per day is closely matched to the needs of individual areas.

He expressed surprise at the infrequency of the District's collection.

The Park Service's operations differ from the city's in other ways as well. It has purchased a large number of attractive 'tulip model' cans with wooden slats around the outside. "We actually got that model from England," said Kloske, "but if anything it is cheaper than the cast aluminum model, such as the Division of Sanitation has around the White House and downtown." And the Park Service receptacles are easier to service than the ones the District has.

The Park Service also appears to use its supervisory personnel in a more efficient manner than the District. The city has pairs of foremen dispatched in 90 black patrol cars, but they primarily oversee the work of the street cleaners and do not perform such additional tasks as noting which trash receptacles are overflowing and where new receptacles are needed.

The Park Service has superintendents assigned to specific areas with responsibility for the maintenance of those areas including proper trash service.

The city has, however, appointed a study team, headed by Michael Stearn, which may propose some changes in the way the District handles trash. Stearn cited as one example the lack of packer trucks in Washington. "It is a sin that we don't have packers," he said. The present trucks have open tops, do not pack the trash, and require one man to receive the cans, while the packers permit all the trashmen to pick up cans and load and load them at street level.

But the chances of major changes in the District's operations look slim. As Stearn said: "It's the damnedest, slowest thing I've ever seen in my life."

Symbolic of the District's attitude towards the trash problem is the Sanitation Division's reaction to the matter of beer and whiskey bottles that often overflow Capitol East receptacles after a weekend. The cans are not emptied until the following Thursday. When a Gazette reporter asked a sanitation official about this, he was told that it was illegal to drink in public and since the receptacles are for pedestrian litter only, the bottles and beer cans shouldn't be there.

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